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**NEBRASKA SPECIAL EDUCATION  
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**SEAC  
Annual Report  
2013-14**



Nebraska Department of Education  
301 Centennial Mall South  
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987

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# Nebraska Department of Education

**Matthew Blomstedt, PhD**  
*Commissioner of Education*

**Gary M. Sherman**  
*Special Education Administrator*

**Ann C. Bird**  
*SEAC Facilitator*

**Karen Hoffman**  
*SEAC Recorder*

# Reflections from the Chair



It has been an honor for me to serve on the Nebraska Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC). When I was originally appointed to SEAC, I was asked to fill the vacancy of an individual who was unable to complete his term. I went on to serve my own four-year term, including my final year as Chair of the Council. My position on SEAC represented multiple categories: parent, public school teacher and facilitator for a support and resource group.

The leadership I have witnessed from the members of the Council, as well as from the Nebraska Department of Education, Special Education Office, was incredible. I felt very comfortable to ask questions and to share my ideas on various topics.

The NDE Special Education Office staff did a tremendous job of providing the Council with the necessary information to make appropriate decisions. They were able to present the information in a way that enabled the Council to discuss and provide the feedback necessary to determine the next steps.

As I complete my term on SEAC, I do so with mixed emotions. I know that the NDE Special Education Office is in outstanding hands, and I look forward to seeing the progress made by the Council in the years to come. At the same time, I am sad that my time with the group has come to an end. I wish the Council great success in the future!

Respectfully submitted,

*Kelly Coleman*

SEAC Chair 2013-2014

# What Is SEAC?

## Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) is an advisory panel established to provide policy guidance with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities. The responsibilities of SEAC include becoming knowledgeable about research-based educational practices and reviewing Nebraska Department of Education, Office of Special Education activities designed to improve outcomes for children with disabilities.

Members are selected for a term of four years, and seek information from the perspectives of their constituency groups. Members represent parents and a broad array of professional expertise. SEAC serves in an advisory capacity to the NDE Office of Special Education, the Commissioner of Education, and to the Nebraska State Board of Education.

The responsibility of each Council member is to advise, (i.e. inform, counsel, recommend, suggest or guide) the Department of Education, not to advocate for individual issues. Recommendations are made by SEAC for the consideration and possible action by the NDE Office of Special Education and the State Board.



Retiring SEAC members Suzanne Kemp, Kris McMullen, Kelly Coleman, *SEAC Chair*, Jane Byers and Norma Mercer

# Regulatory Authority

## Excerpts from the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 IDEA

### I. Regulatory Authority for Committee

#### *Sec. 1412(21)(A) State Advisory Panel*

- a. The State has established and maintains an advisory panel for the purpose of providing policy guidance with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities in the State.

### II. Committee

#### Sec. 1412(21)(D)

(D) The state advisory panel shall –

- (i) Advise the state education agency of unmet needs within the state in the education of children with disabilities;
- (ii) comment publicly on the state plan and rules or regulations proposed for issuance by the state regarding the education of children with disabilities;
- (iii) advise the State educational agency in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under section 618;
- (iv) advise the State educational agency in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal monitoring reports under this part; and
- (v) advise the State educational agency in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities.

## 2013-14 SEAC MEMBERSHIP

<b>Frank Adams</b> <a href="mailto:fradams1@wsc.edu">fradams1@wsc.edu</a>	402-375-7379 (W) 402-369-0834 (H)	10123 Douglas St. Wayne, NE 68787	(iii)	2017	3
<b>John Bright</b> <a href="mailto:john.bright@ops.org">john.bright@ops.org</a>	402-557-2476 (W) 402-680-3486 (H)	3215 Cuming St. Omaha, NE 68131	(iv)	2016	4
<b>Diane Bruha</b> <a href="mailto:diane@creteschools.org">diane@creteschools.org</a>	402-826-4822 (W) 402-826-4417(H)	650 Goldenrod Lane Crete, NE 68333	(v)	2017	5
<b>Jane Byers</b> <a href="mailto:jbyers@paplv.org">jbyers@paplv.org</a>	402-537-6233 (W) 402-289-1135 (H)	22630 Southshore Dr. Waterloo, NE	(iv), (v)	2014	2
<b>◆Bridget Cannon-Hale</b> <a href="mailto:bcannon-hale@pti-nebraska.org">bcannon-hale@pti-nebraska.org</a>	402-3460525(W)	2564 Leavenworth Omaha, NE 68105	(i), (vi)	2017	8
<b>■Kelly Coleman</b> <a href="mailto:klcoleman@mpsomaha.org">klcoleman@mpsomaha.org</a>	402-715-6200 (W) 402-968-3608 (C) 402-715-6220 (F)	8121 South 105 <sup>th</sup> Street LaVista, NE 68128	(i), (ii)	2014	8
<b>Millie Demuth</b> <a href="mailto:millie@nsecu.org">millie@nsecu.org</a>	402-471-2561 (W) 402-489-4497 (H) 402-471-2869 (F)	8310 Vine St. Lincoln, NE 68505	(i)	2014	1
<b>◆Cindy Ellis</b> <a href="mailto:cellis@unmc.edu">cellis@unmc.edu</a>	402-559-4985 (W) 402-981-7046 (C) 402-559-2791 (F)	UNMC 985380 N.M.C. Omaha, NE 68198-5380	(i), (iii), (vi)	2016	4
<b>◆Mary Gordon</b> <a href="mailto:mary.gordon@nebraska.gov">mary.gordon@nebraska.gov</a>	402-471-0143 (W) 402-471-0183 (F) 402-217-8936 (C)	DHHS PO Box 95026 Lincoln, NE 68509-5026	(vi)	2015	1
<b>Queen Greene</b> <a href="mailto:qgreene@cox.net">qgreene@cox.net</a>	402-658-6676 (H)	14021 Manderson Plz, Apt. 111 Omaha, NE 68164	(i)	2016	4
<b>Judy Hall</b> <a href="mailto:jhall@hastings.edu">jhall@hastings.edu</a>	402-461-7472 (W) 402-462-9388 (H) 402-705-7327 (C)	727 North California Ave. Hastings, NE 68901	(iii)	2016	5
<b>Debbie Healey</b> <a href="mailto:d7healey@cox.net">d7healey@cox.net</a>	402-880-4879 (C)	8123 S. 104 <sup>th</sup> St. LaVista, NE 68128	(i)	2016	2
<b>Jody Hitesman</b> <a href="mailto:jhitesman@esu9.org">jhitesman@esu9.org</a>	402-463-5611 (W) 402-463-9555	1623 Hillcrest Drive Juniata, NE 68955	(viii)	2017	6
<b>Mary Jorgensen</b> <a href="mailto:maryjorgensen@fnni.com">maryjorgensen@fnni.com</a>	402-602-8369 (W) 402-871-9774 (C)	18334 Hwy. 370 Omaha, NE 68136	(i)	2014	2
<b>Sue Kemp</b> <a href="mailto:skemp2@unl.edu">skemp2@unl.edu</a>	402-472-0084 (W) 402-420-5868 (H) 402-450-1493 (C)	1721 Saint Andrews Place Lincoln, NE 68512	(iii)	2014	1
<b>Emily Kluver</b> <a href="mailto:emily.kluver@nebraska.gov">emily.kluver@nebraska.gov</a>	917-627-8805 (H) 402-471-8424 (W)	DHHS PO Box 95026 Lincoln, NE 68509-5026	(ix)	2017	1
<b>Steve Larsen</b> <a href="mailto:slarsen@scottsbuffcounty.org">slarsen@scottsbuffcounty.org</a>	308-633-1847 (W) 308-631-7789 (C) 308-633-1850 (F)	140042 Pieper Lane Mitchell, NE 69357	(x)	2016	7
<b>Kris McMullen</b> <a href="mailto:kmcmullen@gjps.org">kmcmullen@gjps.org</a>	308-385-5900 (W) 308-390-2606 (C)	2119 North Park Avenue Grand Island, NE 68803	(ii)	2014	6
<b>Brenda McNiff</b> <a href="mailto:bmcniffcent@yahoo.com">bmcniffcent@yahoo.com</a>	402-223-5277 (W) 402-223-3511 (H) (402-223-5279 (F)	900 West Court St. Beatrice, NE 68310	(i) (v)	2015	5
<b>Norma Mercer</b> <a href="mailto:normam1956@yahoo.com">normam1956@yahoo.com</a>	402-520-1787 (H)	611 North 5 <sup>th</sup> Street Beatrice, NE 68310	(i)	2014	5
<b>Ryan O'Grady</b> <a href="mailto:rogrady@gjps.org">rogrady@gjps.org</a>	308-385-5900 (W) 402-980-3803 (C) 308-385-5797 (F)	3006 Laramie Dr. Grand Island, NE 68803	(v)	2015	6
<b>Kasey Pestel</b> <a href="mailto:kapest01@wsc.edu">kapest01@wsc.edu</a>	402-640-8884 (C) 402-529-6814 (H)	337 N Road Wisner, NE 68791	(i)	2014	3
<b>JoAnne Roberts</b> <a href="mailto:joroberts@npsne.org">joroberts@npsne.org</a>	402-644-2544 (W) 402-640-9238 (H) 402-644-2545 (F)	1702 East Berry Hill Norfolk, NE 68701	(i), (v)	2015	3
<b>Fr. Lawrence Stoley</b> <a href="mailto:fr.lawrence-stoley@cdolinc.net">fr.lawrence-stoley@cdolinc.net</a>	402-643-4052 (W) 402-450-4552 (H)	St. Gregory the Great 800 Fletcher Rd. Seward, NE 68434	(vii)	2016	5
<b>Carey Winkler</b> <a href="mailto:cwinkler@les.com">cwinkler@les.com</a>	402-310-3556 (C) 402-435-3556 (H)	407 W. Carrine Dr. Lincoln, NE 68521	(i)	2017	1
<b>Marie Wohlers</b> <a href="mailto:mrmwohlers@gmail.com">mrmwohlers@gmail.com</a>	308-430-2961 (W) 308-665-1104 (H)	14051 Hwy 2/71 Crawford, NE 69339	(i)	2015	7

■ SEAC Chair

◆ SEAC Executive Committee

(See Membership requirements (categories) on next page)

# SEAC Membership Requirements

## Categories of Required Representation

**(Excerpts from the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act – IDEA)  
Sec. 1412(21)(B)**

*(B) Membership – Such advisory panel shall consist of members appointed by the Governor, or any other official authorized under State law to make such appointments, be representative of the State population, and be composed of individuals involved in, or concerned with, the education of children with disabilities, including—*

- (i) parents of children with disabilities (ages birth through 26); or Individuals with disabilities;
- (ii) teachers;
- (iii) representatives of institutions of higher education that prepare special education and related services personnel;
- (iv) State and local educational officials who carry out activities under Homeless Assistance Act;
- (v) administrators of programs for children with disabilities;
- (vi) representatives of other State agencies involved in the financing or delivery of related services to children with disabilities;
- (vii) representatives of private schools and public charter schools;
- (viii) not less than one representative of a vocational, community, or business organization concerned with the provision of transition services to children with disabilities; and
- (ix) a representative from the State child welfare agency responsible for foster care; and
- (x) representatives from the State juvenile and adult corrections agencies. Special Rule – a majority of the members of the panel shall be individuals with disabilities or parents of children with disabilities.

*Special Rules – a majority of the members of the panel shall be individuals with disabilities or parents of children with disabilities (ages birth through 26).*

**Excerpt from Nebraska Special Education Advisory Council Operating Procedures  
Article II, Sec. B**

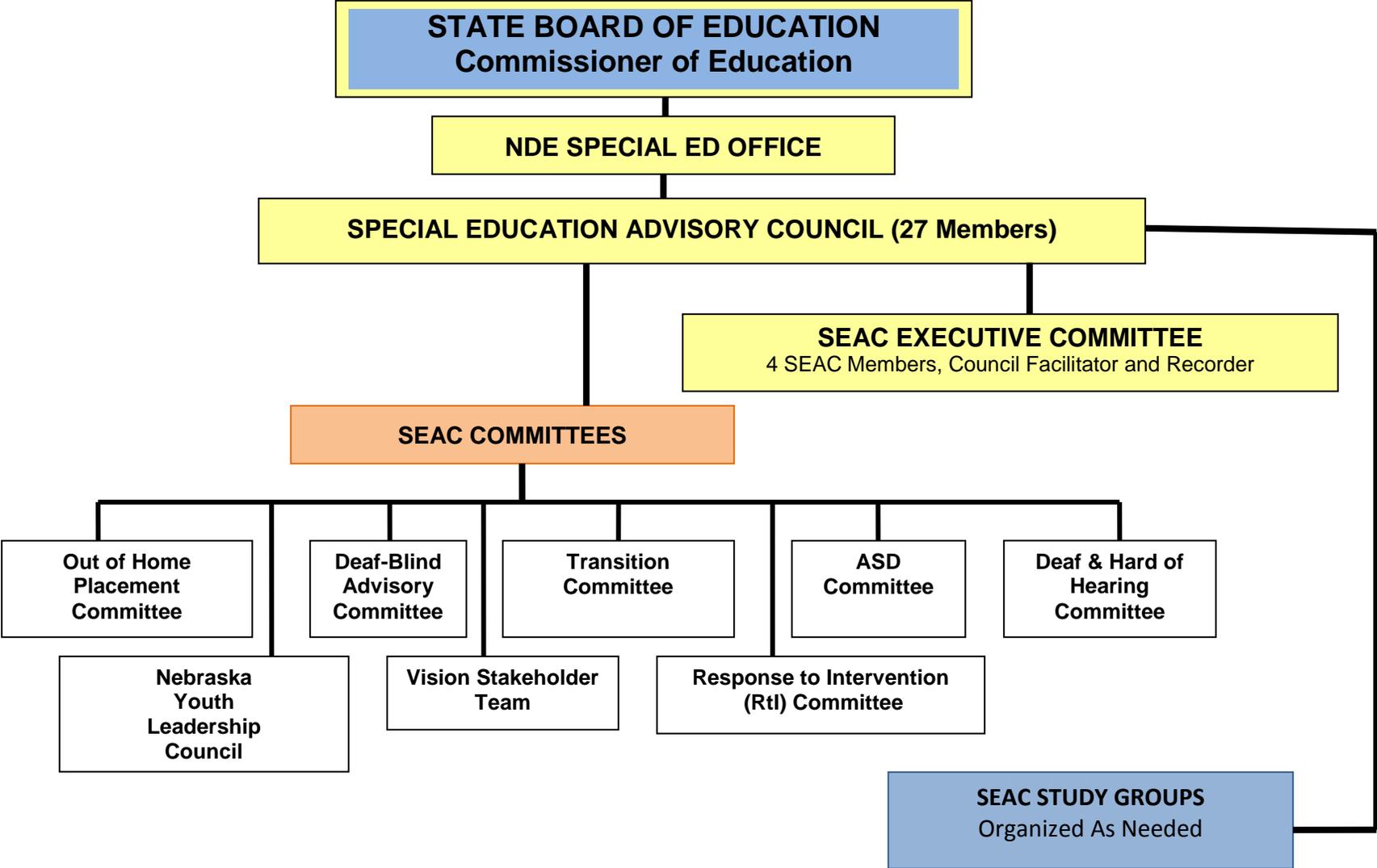
*The members shall be selected so as to represent all eight of the State Board of Education election districts. The Council voting membership shall not be fewer than 15 members.*

## SEAC PRIORITIES 2012-15

*For the purpose of providing policy guidance to the Nebraska Department of Education with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities, the following priorities are established for 2012-13 through 2014-15:*

- ❖ To participate in the development, review and revision of the State Performance Plan (SPP) 2011-17 including:
  - **Impact Area 1:** Improving Academic Achievement, Functional Outcomes and Child Outcomes in Natural and Inclusive Environments
  - **Impact Area 2:** Improving Communication and Relationships Among Families, Schools, Communities and Agencies
  - **Impact Area 3:** Improving Transitions from the Early Development Network to Preschool and School to Adult Living
  - **Impact Area 4:** Improving Accountability and General Supervision
  
- ❖ To review the effectiveness of the current State Performance Plan (SPP) through the analysis of data in the Annual Performance Report (APR) to determine that Nebraska is demonstrating continuous improvement in the compliance and results indicators, in response to OSEP's change in emphasis from compliance to results
  
- ❖ To monitor state and federal legislation, including the Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to assure:
  - Linkage between ESEA and IDEA (including but not limited to: Response to Intervention, ChildFind, Assessment and Progress Monitoring)
  - Individual rights of students with disabilities
  
- ❖ To support the initiatives established during the 2012 OSEP Validation visit:
  - Re-entry Initiative: Engaging Out of School Youth
  - Increase of the MDT Rates for Infants and Toddlers

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL STRUCTURE**



## THE SEAC YEAR IN REVIEW 2013-14

The Special Education Advisory Council met for four regularly scheduled meetings throughout the year, with a new member orientation meeting conducted prior to the first meeting of the year. The Council met on: September 19, 2013, November 21, 2013, January 30, 2014 and April 17, 2014.

The 2013-14 SEAC year began on September 12<sup>th</sup>, with an Orientation training session for the new members joining the Council. The SEAC Orientation Manual and the SEAC Primer were used as instructional tools to acquaint new members with the mission of SEAC and the procedures followed during each meeting. A glossary of important terms was reviewed to give new members an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the typical vocabulary used during SEAC meetings and activities. New Council members reviewed the SEAC Priorities for 2012-15 and received an overview of Nebraska's State Performance Plan and the Annual Performance Report.

Throughout the year, SEAC reviewed prior to, or at each meeting, the progress of the following SEAC Committees and their initiatives and activities:

- Deaf/Blind Committee
- Autism Spectrum Disorders Committee
- Out of Home Placement Committee
- Regional Programs for Children Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing
- Nebraska Youth Leadership Council
- Transition Advisory Committee
- Vision Stakeholders Committee

As part of the materials and agenda for all SEAC meeting, information was provided regarding the following:

- Due process case reports and Nebraska legislation
- Annual Performance Report updates
- State Performance Plan updates
- School district determinations and public reporting status
- ILCD (Monitoring) Procedures

The SEAC Priorities for 2012-2015 below, shaped the foundation for the construction of each SEAC Meeting Agenda:

*For the purpose of providing policy guidance to the Nebraska Department of Education with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities, the following priorities are established for 2012-13 through 2014-15:*

- ❖ To participate in the development, review and revision of the State Performance Plan (SPP) 2011-17 including:
  - **Impact Area 1:** Improving Academic Achievement, Functional Outcomes and Child Outcomes in Natural and Inclusive Environments
  - **Impact Area 2:** Improving Communication and Relationships Among Families, Schools, Communities and Agencies
  - **Impact Area 3:** Improving Transitions from the Early Development Network to Preschool and School to Adult Living
  - **Impact Area 4:** Improving Accountability and General Supervision
- ❖ To review the effectiveness of the current State Performance Plan (SPP) through the analysis of data in the Annual Performance Report (APR) to determine that Nebraska is demonstrating continuous improvement in the compliance and results indicators, in response to OSEP's change in emphasis from compliance to results
- ❖ To monitor state and federal legislation, including the Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to assure:
  - Linkage between ESEA and IDEA (including but not limited to: Response to Intervention, ChildFind, Assessment and Progress Monitoring)
  - Individual rights of students with disabilities
- ❖ To support the initiatives established during the 2012 OSEP Validation visit:
  - Re-entry Initiative: Engaging Out of School Youth
  - Increase of the MDT Rates for Infants and Toddlers

**NEBRASKA SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
*An advisory panel providing policy guidance to the Nebraska Department of  
Education with respect to special education and related services  
for children with disabilities*

**AGENDA**

Cornhusker Marriott Hotel  
333 South 13<sup>th</sup> St.  
Lincoln, NE  
September 19, 2013

8:30	Registration	
9:00	Welcome Introductions “Lots of New Faces!”	Gary Sherman Kelly Coleman
9:30	Council Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Open Meetings Law Announcement</li><li>• Approval of April 18, 2013 Minutes*</li><li>• Approval of September 19, 2013 Agenda*</li><li>• Notice of Conferences/Meetings</li><li>• SEAC Annual Report 2012-13</li><li>• 2013-14 SEAC Meeting Dates*<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ November 21, 2013</li><li>○ January 30, 2014</li><li>○ April 17, 2014</li></ul></li><li>• SEAC Executive Committee Member Position</li></ul>	Kelly Coleman Annie Bird
10:00	SEAC Committee Report: <i>Nebraska Youth Leadership Council</i>	Kristi Berst Kasey Pestel
10:25	<b>Break</b>	
10:40	Rule 52 (92 NAC 52)	Carol McClain Joan Luebbers
11:00	<i>Results Driven Accountability</i>	Beth Wierda
12:00	<b>Working Lunch**</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Membership on SEAC Committees</li><li>• Monthly <i>Directors’ Conference Calls</i></li><li>• SAP Webinars</li></ul>	Annie Bird

1:00	Public Comments	
1:15	NDE Special Education Office Team Structure	Beth Wierda
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance</li> <li>• Data</li> <li>• Monitoring/ILCD</li> <li>• Program Improvement</li> </ul>	Pete Biaggio Sara Sinani Jeanne Heaston Lindy Foley
2:15	SEAC and NDE Special Education Office	Gary Sherman
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special Education Office Leadership</li> <li>• Regional Staff Assignments</li> <li>• SEAC Committee Facilitators</li> </ul>	
2:30	Election of Executive Committee Member*	Kelly Coleman
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates Speak</li> </ul>	
2:45	SEAC Committee Report: <i>Deaf and Hard of Hearing Committee</i>	Rhonda Fleischer
3:15	Nebraska's <b>State Performance Plan</b> and <b>Annual Performance Report:</b>	Beth Wierda
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Role of SEAC</li> </ul>	
3:25	Special Education Endorsement Criteria	Carol McClain
4:00	Adjourn	

\* **Items requiring Council action**

\*\* **Lunch is provided for SEAC members and scheduled presenters**

**NEBRASKA SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
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**AGENDA**

Cornhusker Marriott Hotel  
333 South 13<sup>th</sup> St.  
Lincoln, NE  
November 21, 2013

8:30	Registration	
9:00	Welcome and Introductions	Kelly Coleman
9:30	Council Business	Kelly Coleman
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Open Meetings Law Announcement</li><li>• Approval of September 19, 2013 Minutes*</li><li>• Approval of November 21, 2013 Agenda*</li><li>• Notice of Conferences/Meetings</li><li>• Revised SEAC Priorities</li><li>• SEAC Position</li></ul>	Annie Bird
9:45	24 <sup>th</sup> Annual Paraeducator Conference	Dr. Stan Vasa Marjorie Bisbee
10:00	SEAC Committee Report: <i>Nebraska Center for the Education of Children Who Are Blind and Visually Impaired</i>	Sally Giittinger
10:30	<b>Break</b>	
10:45	Rule 52 (92 NAC 52)*	Carol McClain Joan Luebbers Jeanne Heaston
11:30	Rule 51 (92 NAC 51)*	Lindy Foley
11:50	<b>Working Lunch**</b> Video: "I Am Tyler . . . Don't Be Surprised"	
1:00	Public Comments	

1:15	The Data Comes In – The Data Goes Out <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEAC Small Group Activity</li> </ul>	Beth Wierda Annie Bird
2:00	NDE Special Education Office Team Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance</li> <li>• Data</li> <li>• Monitoring/ILCD</li> <li>• Program Improvement</li> </ul>	Pete Biaggio Adria Bace Jeanne Heaston Lindy Foley
2:45	State Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Report (APR)* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Submission Date: February 1, 2014</i></li> </ul>	Beth Wierda, Part B Carol McClain, Part C
3:30	Special Education Fiscal Update	Gary Sherman
4:00	Adjourn	

\* **Items requiring Council action**

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**NEBRASKA SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
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**AGENDA**

Cornhusker Marriott Hotel  
333 South 13<sup>th</sup> St.  
Lincoln, NE  
January 30, 2014

8:30	Registration	
9:00	Welcome and Introductions	Kelly Coleman
9:15	A Message from the Commissioner's Office	Dr. Matt Blomstedt NDE Commissioner
9:45	Council Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Open Meetings Law Announcement</li><li>• Approval of November 21, 2013 Minutes*</li><li>• Approval of January 30, 2014 Agenda*</li><li>• Notice of Conferences/Meetings</li><li>• SEAC Resignation and Position</li><li>• Outcome of Hearings on Rules 51 and 52</li></ul>	Kelly Coleman Annie Bird
10:00	<i>Part C</i> Application*	Carol McClain Amy Bunnell
10:45	<b>Break</b>	
11:00	<i>Part B</i> Application*	Beth Wierda Gary Sherman
11:20	DHHS Services Coordination Manual*	Amy Bunnell
12:10	<b>Working Lunch**</b> SEAC Committee Report: <i>Out of Home Placements</i>	Michele Borg
	Legislation	Mary Gordon Carol McClain
1:15	Public Comments	

1:30	<i>Routines-Based Interview</i>	Sue Bainter Cindy Hankey
2:15	NDE Special Education Office Team Reports Finance Data <i>Parts B and C APR 2012-13</i> Monitoring/ILCD Program Improvement	Pete Biaggio Adria Bace  Jeanne Heaston Lindy Foley
3:30	SEAC Committee Report: <i>NCECBVI</i>	Sally Giittinger
4:00	Adjourn	

\* **Items requiring Council action**

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**NEBRASKA SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
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**AGENDA**

Cornhusker Marriott Hotel  
333 South 13<sup>th</sup> St.  
Lincoln, NE  
April 17, 2014

8:30	Registration	
9:00	Welcome	Kelly Coleman
9:10	Recognition of Retiring SEAC Members	Gary Sherman Annie Bird
9:40	Council Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Open Meetings Law Announcement</li><li>• Approval of January 30, 20134 Minutes*</li><li>• Approval of April 17, 2014 Agenda*</li><li>• Notice of Conferences/Meetings</li><li>• Proposed SEAC First Meeting Date 2014-15<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• September 18, 2014</li><li>• Meeting Start/End Times</li></ul></li></ul>	Kelly Coleman Annie Bird
10:15	SEAC Committee Report: <b>ASD Committee</b> (April: Autism Awareness Month)	Annette Wragge
10:45	<b>BREAK</b>	
11:00	Results Driven Accountability Stakeholders' Meeting Report*	Beth Wierda Lindy Foley Amy Bunnell
12:00	<b>Working Lunch**</b> Legislation	Mary Gordon
	OSEP Determinations Review/Revision	Beth Wierda
1:30	Public Comments	

1:40	SEAC Committee Report: <b>Deaf/Blind Committee</b>	Teresa Coonts
2:10	SEAC Committee Report: <b>Transition Committee</b>	Rita Hammit Ricky Hull
2:40	NDE Special Education Office Team Reports Data Program Improvement Monitoring/ILCD Finance	Adria Bace Lindy Foley Jeanne Heaston Pete Biaggio
4:00	Adjourn/Passing the Gavel	Kelly Coleman

\* **Items requiring Council action**

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## SEAC Committees 2013-2014

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR DEAF-BLINDNESS

The Advisory Committee for Deaf-Blindness was originally established as a requirement of the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) federal grant. The purpose of this committee is to provide input and guidance on grant activities and evaluation. The Advisory Committee for Deaf-Blindness, as well as the Technical Assistance Team, meets a minimum of two times per year and offers input and support to all grant activities. The Advisory Committee for Deaf-Blindness was written into the federal grant proposal and was approved for the 5 year grant period of 2008-2013.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representation</b>	<b>City</b>
Donna Aksamit	Evaluator/Consultant	Lincoln
Laura Barrett	ESU #13	Scottsbluff
Marge Beatty	Administrator, ESU#16	Ogallala
Mike Brummer	Metro Regional Program for Children D/HH	Omaha
Kimberly Davis	NE Commission for D/HH	Lincoln
Julie Delkamiller	UNO SpEd and Communication Disorders	Omaha
Kara Delano	SLP, ESU #15	Trenton
Matt Fenster	SPED Director, Bellevue	Bellevue
Holly F-Matzen	Teacher, Beatrice	Beatrice
Nancy Flearl	Supervisor, NE Comm.Blind/VI	Omaha
Angel Foster	EC, ESU #15	Trenton
Sherri Frisbie	TVI and O & M, OPS	Omaha
Penny Gildea	Parent, Building Bright Futures	Omaha
Sally Giittinger	Administrator, NCECBVI	Nebraska City
Phyllis Graney	Western Regional Coordinator, ATP	Ogallala
Tanya Hilligoss	Project Coordinator, NCECBVI	Nebraska City
Vernae Luhr	Audiologist	
LeAnna McDonald	TVI and O & M Westside Comm. Schools	Omaha
Julie McGuire	DB Parent Leadership Team	Omaha
Diane Meyer	Coordinator, Metro Regional Programs Deaf/HH	Omaha
Norma Mercer	Parent, NE Sp. Ed. Advisory Council (SEAC)	Beatrice
Kathleen Newman	TVI and O & M Private Consultant	Ashland
Ryan O'Grady	SPED Director, Grand Island	Grand Island
Joyce Olson	TVI, Private Practice	Genoa
Rose Petersen	Services Coordinator, EDN	Auburn
Ellin Siegel	Associate Professor, UNL	Lincoln

Jennifer Stuhmer	Parent, DB Parent Leadership Team	Lincoln
Dixie Trevarthen	SE Regional Coordinator, ATP	Omaha
Susan Weber	Retired TVI, Private Practice	Lincoln
<b>Teresa Coonts</b>	<b>NDE Project Director</b>	<b>Omaha</b>

## DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMITTEE

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Committee is composed of stakeholders representing D/HH Regional Programs, parents, LEA administrators, Nebraska School for the Deaf alumni, higher education, and agencies providing services to children who are deaf and hard of hearing. Committee members present information about the activities of their organizations. The Committee meets two times each year. The purpose is to coordinate and prevent redundancy of services and activities, as well as to gather input.

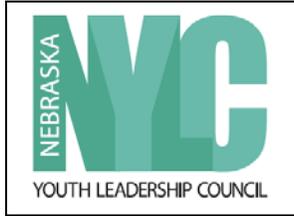
<b>Name</b>	<b>Representation</b>	<b>City</b>
Laura Barrett	Central Western Nebraska Partnership	Scottsbluff
Frances Beurivage	Boys Town National Research Hospital	Omaha
Jill Bird	Southeast NE Regional Program	Lincoln
Pat Bracken	Voc Rehab	Lincoln
Jorja Brazda Witters	Omaha Public Schools	Omaha
Mike Brummer	Metro Regional Program	Omaha
Teresa Coonts	NDE Low Incidence Team Leader	Omaha
Sue Czaplewski	Central Western Nebraska Partnership	Hastings
Lindsay Darnall, Jr.	NeAD	Polk
Julie Delkamiller	UNO	Omaha
Millie Demuth	SEAC Representative	Lincoln
Malinda Eccarius	UNL	Lincoln
Sheri Harrington	NeRID	Lincoln
Frank Hebenstreit	Norfolk Public Schools	Norfolk
Wendy Herrold	Southeast NE Regional Program	Lincoln
Jill Hoffart	Northeast Regional Program	Norfolk
Paula Hopkins	Omaha Public Schools	Omaha
Stacy Luther	Nebraska Hands and Voices	Omaha
Diane Meyer	Metro Regional Program	Omaha
Donna Moss	Hastings Public Schools	Hastings
Kathy Northrop	NE-EHDI	Lincoln
Sara Peterson	ESU #13	Scottsbluff
Colleen Richart	GBYS	
Peter Seiler	NE Commission for the Deaf or Hard of Hearing	Lincoln
Mike Steinwart	SEAC Representative	Cozad
Deb Vapenik	ESU #16	North Platte
Rosie Westerhold	SNRP	Lincoln
Alison Winkler	Westside Community Schools	Omaha
<b>Rhonda Fleischer</b>	<b>Facilitator, Nebr. Dept. of Education,</b>	<b>Hastings</b>

## TRANSITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Transition Advisory Committee meets three times a year to discuss statewide topics related to the transition of students from high school to adult living. Recommendations are collected from this committee specific to state planning for trainings, technical assistance resources, and state procedures for collecting and analyzing specific transition data.

Name	Representation	City
Kristi Arlt	Transition Specialist ESU #2	Fremont
Jan Barber	ESU #13	Scottsbluff
Kristi Berst	NE Youth Leadership Council Facilitator	Omaha
Anne Marie Boose	Transition Supervisor OPS	Omaha
Veva Cheney	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Lincoln
Lou Cox-Fornander	Transition Specialist ESU #16	Ogallala
Sharon Dalrymple	Families Inspiring Families	Lincoln
Barb Fischer	Educational Service Unit #9 Grant Coordinator	Hastings
Janice Flegle	UNMC-Munroe Meyer Institute OT	Omaha
Lloya Fritz	Consultant	Lincoln
Patty Galbraith	Consultant	Grand Island
Cindy Hahn	Disability Services Counselor – Central Comm. College	Hastings
<b>Rita Hammitt</b>	<b>NDE - Committee Chair</b>	<b>LaVista</b>
Jody Hitesman	Educational Service Unit #9	Hastings
Linda Jespersen	Parent	Alliance
Becky Koenig	Millard Public Schools	Omaha
Mark Mason	Voc Rehab (Committee Co-Chair)	Lincoln
Kris McMullen	Community Based Instruction, GI Public Schools	Grand Island
Maggie Mintken	CNSSP, SEAC Representative	Grand Island
Dr. Teri Ourada	Lincoln Public Schools	Lincoln
Daria Pierorazio	Program Supervisor, CNSSP	Grand Island
Victoria Rasmussen	Director, Client Assistance Program	Lincoln
Sue VanHousen	ESU #7	Columbus
Dr. Pearl VanZandt	NCBVI	Lincoln
<b>Lindy Foley</b>	<b>Facilitator, Nebr. Dept. of Education, Sp. Education</b>	<b>Lincoln</b>





## NEBRASKA YOUTH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL (NYLC)

The Nebraska Youth Leadership Council (NYLC) has been in place as a SEAC Committee since 2008. The NYLC is comprised of students ages 15-21 years with various disabilities who live across Nebraska. The YLC provides input from the student perspective regarding school services and employment, including academic, social, and transition activities.

Name	City
Jessica Barrett	Morrill
Andre Braun	Morrill
Abbey Buettgenbach	Pierce
Forrest Burroughs	Lincoln
Nicole Daake	Elwood
Justyn Free	Lincoln
Addy Geier-Hunter	Omaha
Gina Geiger	York
Brice Hilfiker	David City
Megan Hoeft	David City
Brionna Hoos	Grand Island
Kenneth Hoselton	Grand Island
Cory Hutchinson	Bridgeport
Samantha Jacobsen	Bellwood
Melissa Kepler	Oshkosh
Ryan Kile	Lawrence
Jamie Krien	Waverly
Samantha Lemke	Lawrence
Travis O'Connell	Hastings
Bruce Peoples, II	Papillion
Kasey Pestel	Wisner
Kaylee Pierce	David City
Adam Scott	Gering
Christina Stolp	Omaha
Julia Sullivan	Aurora
Nicole Sullivan	Pierce
Justin Valentine	Bellevue
Haley Waggoner	Lincoln
Cassidy Wall	Ashland
Ruben Whelchel	Bushnell
Maggie Wolfe	York
Tanner Wolfe	York
Clarissah Woten	Omaha
<b>Denise Bengston, Co-Facilitator</b>	Grand Island
<b>Kristi Berst, Facilitator</b>	<b>Nebraska Department of Education</b>

## COMMITTEE ON THE EDUCATION OF STUDENTS IN OUT OF HOME PLACEMENTS

Name	Representation	City
Brad Alexander	Douglas Co. Youth Center	Omaha
David Baisinger	Nebraska Youth Academy	Hastings
Carolyn Brown	Envisions of Norfolk	Norfolk
Dave Erb	Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Services, Inc.	Madison
Randy Farmer	Pathfinder Education Program YSC	Lincoln
Vicki Fehringer	Waverly Public Schools	Waverly
DeDe Frisch	South Sioux City Community Schools	So. Sioux City
Patrick Garcia	Epworth Village	York
Scott Gregory	Youth Treatment and Rehab Center	Geneva
Lori Griggs	State Juvenile Probation District #20	Lincoln
Susan Harder	NE Correctional Youth Facility	Omaha
<b>Kim Hawekotte, Chair</b>	NE Foster Care Review Office	Lincoln
Donna Hoffman	School Counselors, NDE	Lincoln
Emily Kluver	NE Department of Health & Human Svcs.	Lincoln
Steve Larsen	Scotts Bluff Juv. Detention Center	Mitchell
James Larson	Papillion-LaVista Public Schools	Papillion
Dave Marsh	Lincoln Public Schools	Lincoln
Tanya Martin	Boys Town	Omaha
Mark Mason	Vocational Rehabilitation, NDE	Lincoln
Ryan O'Grady	Grand Island Public Schools	Grand Island
Kristi O'Meara	Lexington Public Schools	Lexington
Judge Linda Porter	Separate Juv. Court of Lancaster County	Lincoln
Dawn Rockey	CASA of Lancaster County	Lincoln
Cassy Rockwell	Project Everlast- NE Children & Fam. Fdn.	Lincoln
Steve Snodgrass	Ralston Public Schools	Ralston
<b>Michele Borg</b>	<b>Committee Facilitator</b>	<b>Douglas</b>
Pat Frost	NDE Title I Office	Lincoln

## VISION STAKEHOLDER TEAM

Members of the Vision Stakeholder Team represent individuals, agencies and groups interested in the provision of educational and mobility services to students with visual impairments. Annually, the members review activities conducted by the Nebraska Center for the Education of Children Who Are Blind and Visually Impaired, including residential, education and outreach services across Nebraska.

Name	Representation	City
Cindy Barr-McNair	Millard Public Schools	Omaha
Jorja Brazda-Witters	Omaha Public Schools	Omaha
Karen Duffy	NCECBVI	Nebraska City
Jon Fisher	Educational Service Unit #4	Auburn
Sherri Frisbie	Omaha Public Schools	Omaha
Audrey Graves	NCECBVI	Nebraska City
Shelly Gray	Consumer	Omaha
Elissa Heibel	ESU #7	Albion
Tanya Hilligoss	Lincoln Public Schools	Lincoln
Jason Hippen	Nebraska City Public Schools	Nebraska City
Wendy Kemling	Scottsbluff Public Schools	Scottsbluff
Jean Loberg	Parent	Wayne
Barb Loos	Consumer	Lincoln
Jill McCaslin-Timmons	Lincoln Public Schools	Lincoln
<b>Norma Mercer</b>	<b>SEAC Representative</b>	<b>Beatrice</b>
Jane Moody	Educational Service Unit #11	Holdrege
Patti Neill	ATP	Cozad
Linda Plager	Region V	Nebraska City
Mary Robinson	Fremont Public Schools	Fremont
Ellin Siegel	UNL – Special Education Department	Lincoln
Troy and Nancy Solsaa	Parents	Waverly
Pearl Van Zandt	NE Comm.-Blind and Visually Impaired	Lincoln
Cheryl Wichman	Parent	Nebraska City
Sharon Wordekemper	McCook Public Schools	McCook
<b>Teresa Coonts</b>	<b>Facilitator, NDE Special Education Office</b>	<b>Omaha</b>
<b>Sally Giittinger</b>	<b>Facilitator, NCECBVI*</b>	<b>Nebraska City</b>

*\*Nebraska Center for the Education of Children Who Are Blind and Visually Impaired*



## AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS (ASD) COMMITTEE

The ASD Committee provides advice to NDE, the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), and the University of Nebraska (UNL) concerning the following:

- The ASD Network’s role in teaching the delivery of appropriate services for children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD);
- The review of current pertinent research and information regarding methodologies and delivery systems for ASD;
- The review of all due process trends associated with children with ASD;
- Recommendations for ASD training of educators, parents and community; and
- Recommendations for ASD teaching competencies/standards.

Name	Representation	City
Keri Bennett	Prog Dir, Acquired Brain Injury	Kearney
Bethany Brunsman	Lincoln Public Schools	Lincoln
Rebecca Eckhardt	So. Sioux City Public Schools	So. Sioux City
Dr. Cindy Ellis	UNMC-MMI	Omaha
Rene Ferdinand	Autism Center of Nebraska	Omaha
Laura Maddox	Lincoln Public Schools Early Childhood	Lincoln
Jamie Lewis	Occupational Therapist, ESU #11	Holdrege
Nancy Meyer	ESU 6 Special Services	Milford
Brittney Phillips	Parent/HHS Family Services Specialist	Sidney
Cara Small	ESU 6 Early Childhood Specialist	Milford
Lenette Sprunk	ESUs 5, 6 and 7 Assistive Tech Specialist	Columbus
Torri Tejral	Autism Leadership Academy Coordinator	Omaha
Staff	Agency	City
<b>Teresa Coonts</b>	<b>Facilitator, NDE Special Education Office</b>	<b>Omaha</b>
Sonja Chatfield-Peetz	ASD Northeast Region Coordinator	Columbus
Kelly Anne Ertle	ASD Western Region Coordinator	Scottsbluff
Terri McGill	ASD Metro Region Coordinator	Omaha
Megan Misegadis	ASD Network Assistant/Parent	Lincoln
Dawna Sigurdson	ASD Central Region Coordinator	Kearney
Melissa Trautman	ASD Southeast Region Coordinator	Milford
<b>Annette Wragge</b>	<b>Facilitator, ASD Network Coordinator</b>	<b>Lincoln</b>

